

REMARKS

Applicant notes that claim 9 is pending in the application but is not referenced in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests that claim 9 be considered.

Applicant acknowledges that claim 6 is free of the art. Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 41 to incorporate the limitations of claim 6. Applicant respectfully submits that in view of this amendment the rejections of claims 1-4, 9, 11-41, 45, and 46 are moot. Claims 6, 42-44, and 47 are canceled. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant encloses a supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and requests that the references cited thereon be considered and made of record. Applicant submits that the pending claims are free of the cited art.

Issue Fee Payment

Applicant respectfully requests that the issue fee previously paid by Applicant for the above-referenced application be applied to any subsequent issue fee that becomes due.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, Applicant believes that the now-pending claims, 1-4, 9, 11-41, 45, and 46 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and allowance of the present application is hereby respectfully requested. In the event any fees are due with this paper, please charge these fees to deposit account 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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